

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5588
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2001
GAUGE CLOTH
RENU KUMARI SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether mandatory to obtain drug licence to deal in 'gauge cloth';
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that National Co-operative Consumers Federation India Ltd., Nehru Place, New Delhi has sold gauze cloth to AIIMS without possessing any drug licence;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) : Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 absorbent gauze is a surgical dressing and falls within the definition of drug. Hence, it is mandatory to obtain a drug licence for manufacture and sale of this product.

(c) : Yes, Sir.

(d) & (e) : Drugs Controller, Delhi State issued a show cause notice to National Cooperative Consumer Federation, India Ltd for contravening the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act. The Branch Manager and Chairman of National Cooperative Consumer Federation India Ltd. pleaded that the error took place due to ignorance on the part of the concerned employees and that the concerned employees have been placed under suspension. The National Cooperative Consumer Federation, India Ltd. also took immediate remedial action to discontinue, sale of drug items including absorbent gauge.

Samples of surgical dressing supplied by National Cooperative Consumer Federation, India Ltd. to AIIMS were found to be of standard quality by the Govt. Analyst. Hence, the Delhi Government took the decision not to initiate any legal action against National Cooperative Consumer Federation, India Ltd.